The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

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"YELLOW DOG" PLAN IS AGAIN SUSTAINED

Boston, Jan. 20.—The state supreme court has ruled that an employer has the right to make it a condition of employment that those whom he hires must not affiliate with a trade union. This contract is known as "yellow dog" contract among trade unionists.

The decision was made in the case of the Moore drop forging company of Springfield. The company secured an injunction prohibiting trade unionists "and all others" from inducing or persuading any person now or hereafter in the employment of the company to leave that employment, or to prevent the company from entering into individual contracts with its employes.

In upholding this injunction, the state supreme court said: "The plaintiff was entitled to make it a condition that those entering its employment should not remain members of a labor union, and is entitled to be protected by the law and to receive whatever benefits may accrue from such a contract."

Washington, Jan. 20.—The Massachusetts state supreme court's decision that an employer can insist employes must not belong to a trade union is in line with the Hitchman decision by the United States supreme court, Dec. 10, 1917. In that case the court upheld an injunction against organized mine workers, who were charged with attempting to interest employes of the Hitchman coal company of West Virginia in trade unionism when these employes had individual contracts with the company not to join a trade union while so employed.

Prior to the Hitchman decision the United States supreme court had ruled in the Adair case and in the Coppage case that employers could discharge a worker for belonging to a trade union or for any other reason. The Adair decision set aside an act making it unlawful to discharge from interstate commerce service because of membership in a trade union. The Coppage decision invalidated a Kansas law which made it illegal for an employe to be discharged because of his trade union membership.

CHILD LABOR CONTROL IS URGED AT HEARING

Washington, Jan. 20.—President Gompers, Miss Grace Abbott of the federal children's bureau, and other speakers urged a sub-committee of the senate judiciary committee to favor the child labor amendment to the federal constitution proposed by Senator McCormick shortly after the United States supreme court set aside the law that would tax profits of child labor. The authors of that legislation intended to make child labor expensive and based their act on supreme court decisions like the oleomargarine and state bank rulings, which held that it was legal to tax oleomargarine and state banks out of existence. When this was attempted in the case of child labor, however, the court held the act was illegal.

The McCormick amendment empowers congress to limit or prohibit the labor of persons under 18 years of age. Amendments on this subject are also proposed by Senators Johnson of California, Lodge of Massachusetts, and Walsh of Montana. Organized labor and other opponents of child labor are supporting the McCormick amendment.

CLEANLINESS NEEDED.

San Francisco, Jan. 20.—Cleanliness is the first requisite in the campaign against lead poisoning, declares L. H. Duschak, M. A., Ph. D., consulting chemical engineer for the California industrial accident commission.

"A careful study of the subject has shown that lead poisoning is almost invariably caused by dust or fume particles which are taken into the system through the mouth or nose," said Dr. Duschak.

"A very small amount of lead, for example, a quantity no larger than a pin head, entering the system every day may gradually bring on poisoning. This minute quantity may easily enter the mouth or nose unnoticed. The effects of moderate exposure may not be noted at first, but lead is a cumulative poison and if lead is regularly entering the system one's health may be gradually undermined and quite a little damage done before the danger is recognized."

FAVOR SWEATING.

London, England, Jan. 20.—Trade unionists are preparing to resist government proposals that would virtually destroy the trade board acts.

The first act was passed in 1909 as a result of trade union agitation against the "sweating" system among oppressed and low-wage workers.

Since the passing of the 1918 amendments 65 boards affecting more than 3,000,000 workers have been set up. Seventy per cent of these workers are women. These boards now set wages of many classes of unorganized and low-paid workers outside the most flagrant sweating trades.

The government's proposal to amend the act is based on the theory that a trade board should be concerned only with the prevention of "sweating" of the worst form, and not, as now, with the fixation for scheduled trades, of a minimum wage.

BRITISH ROADS UNITE.

London, England, Jan. 20.—With the opening of 1923 a new era in the history of British railway transport has begun. Four groups take the place of 120 unrelated companies, and a directorate of 1,300 is reduced to 100. Fares are also reduced. The most important change is in the establishment of a permanent rates commission, composed of representatives of the general public and of the railways, with power continually to adjust the cost of transport to a point fair to both.

HUGE STOCK DIVIDENDS.

New York, Jan. 20.—Complete returns of stock dividends by leading corporations last year show that a total of 139 companies issued stock dividends aggregating $1,484,107,719. Standard oil companies issued the largest dividends, the Atlantic refining company leading with a 900 per cent issue.

The Standard steel car company had a 900 per cent issue and the Victor talking machine company had a 600 per cent issue.

WIRE PROFITS INCREASE.

New York, Jan. 20.—Western Union telegraph company profits for 1922 increased $1,600,818 over 1921. Last year's profits almost reached a million dollars a month, or $11,384,126.

ARIZONA'S GOVERNOR DEFENDS FREE SPEECH

Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 20.—"The greatest safety valve to alleviate discontent in any country is the right to expound ideas, advocate governmental reform and criticise public officials or government institutions," said Governor Hunt, in his message to the state legislature.

The state executive denounced the practice of some officials in Arizona who arrest persons as vagrants when they insist on expressing ideas in public that these officials do not favor.

"The founders of this republic and the authors of the constitution of the United States provided for freedom of speech and the freedom of the press. The constitution of the state of Arizona contains like provisions," said Governor Hunt.

"At this time, when the nations of the world are undergoing rapid changes in government, any attempt to tie down this safety valve is a dangerous expedient.

"In this connection I desire to suggest that the widest possible latitude in public discussion should be permitted. Meetings on street corners, where it will not interfere with the traffic, in the parks or on vacant lots, should not be interfered with, so long as public peace is maintained.

"Oratory cannot injure the government of our country. Suppression of free speech may cause a revolution. Public authorities should, under no circumstances, attempt to prevent the free exercise by every citizen of his constitutional rights of expressing his opinion in public."

GET CARGOES FIRST; SHIPS WILL FOLLOW

Washington, Jan. 20.—"Commerce Reports," a weekly survey issued by the department of commerce, declares that when cargoes are secured a merchant marine follows.

The position of the department of commerce is a direct challenge to subsidy advocates and to American business men, who are reminded that English and German business men built up a merchant marine by first securing markets rather than depending on subsidies.

"Great Britain and Germany built up their vast foreign commerce through intensive and aggressive activity on the part of their own traders, who early established themselves in every part of the world," says 'Commerce Reports.'

"They erected huge warehouses and 'godowns' to facilitate their trade, engaging in both importing and exporting business. Having gained the greater part of the world's commerce, it was an easy matter to build up the large merchant fleets that each nation attained at the height of its prosperity.

"Success for our American merchant marine will just as truly follow a similar procedure on the part of our own exporters and importers."

DIDN'T DEFY GOVERNMENT

Washington, Jan. 20.—Chairman Hooper of the railroad labor board announces that the shop men's strike is not a defiance of government. It is regrettable Mr. Davis did not make this statement when Attorney General Daugherty and the public press were lashing the populace into a wild frenzy and every guarantee of the shop men was swept aside on the ground that they were "defying government."

The latest statement by the railroad board chairman is reprinted in the Congressional Record, issue of January 10. He says: "There have been no violations of the board's decisions by employes, unless the shop strike and the Missouri & North Arkansas strike should be so accounted. In the shop strike, however, it must be remembered that the shop men did not accept the board's decision, and, consequently, claimed that they did not violate it but exercised their legal right under the transportation act to reject it."

COST OF "GREEN" MEN.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The continuous employment of "green" and illiterate men in the coal industry caused the death of 787 men during the past 11 months. These men are placed in mines and know nothing of its dangers until hit by falling rock or coal.

The United States bureau of mines says the only remedy for this situation "under present industrial conditions" is a continuous campaign of education among the miners and a rigid enforcement of safety measures by mining companies and their foremen.

STANDARD OIL BLAMED.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Standard oil is responsible for control of oil prices, according to testimony of independent oil producers before the senate oil investigating committee. One witness declared there were no real independent oil producers in this country. If a corporation fails to follow the lead of Standard oil it is subject to reprisals in the form of cuts in prices below cost, the witness said.

SIGN 44-HOUR CONTRACT.

Detroit, Mich, Jan. 20.—The Typographical union and commercial shop proprietors have signed a 44-hour week contract. Wages will be $1.05 an hour for day work, $1.10 for night work and $1.20 for the third shift. These employers have organized a union-shop branch of the typothetae.

EMPLOY MANY GUARDS.

Washington, Jan. 20.—During the first month of the railroad strike the number of guards and private police employed by railroads increased to 33,430 men, against a normal force of about 8,400 men, the railroads report to the interstate commerce commission.

PROFITS IN SHOES.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 20.—If one objects to the high cost of shoes let him recall that these prices made it possible for the international shoe company to make a clear profit last year of $8,822,011. These figures are announced after dividends, taxes and other charges were met.

TOM HANSON'S SUCCESSOR.

New York, Jan. 20.—The convention of the International Seamen's union elected K. B. Nolan, of Chicago, to fill the unexpired term of the late Secretary-Treasurer Hanson. President Furuseth and other officials were reelected without opposition.

SHIP SUBSIDY GRAB HAS ONLY TOE HOLD

Washington, Jan. 20.—Ship subsidy advocates now claim their measure "has a fighting chance" of being passed by the senate.

This uncertain prediction indicates the state of mind of those who a few months ago were insolently claiming that every one who opposed looting the treasury was in the pay of foreign governments.

The present congress adjourns March 4 next. The administration does not want to call the new congress in special session, but this will be necessary if the regular appropriation bills are not passed.

The appropriation bills could all be sidetracked and every effort made to jam the subsidy bill through before March 4. While this scheme would please the shipping interests, every other big interest would be alarmed because a special session of the new congress would have to be called to pass appropriations. With the new congress once assembled, no one could predict what would happen. The railroad question, for instance, might be reopened, and this at a time when the railroads want to be left alone. They are "getting their's," despite poverty pleas.

At this writing it would seem that something must be thrown to the wolves, and the subsidy bill appears to be the victim on the theory that it is better to disappoint the shipping interests than to run the danger of railroad legislation, income tax legislation, excess profits legislation and other proposals that members of the new congress are committed to.

It is whispered that certain reactionary senators, who are up for re-election two years hence, are not losing sleep over the subsidy bill's present uncertainty. They realize that every one who votes for it will be exhibit A at a first-class political funeral.

BRITISH UNIONISTS PLEAD FOR WORKERS

London, England, Jan. 20.—In a manifesto issued by the Trades Union Congress general council, the prime minister is called upon to at once summon parliament to deal with unemployment as a national emergency of vital importance. Protest is made against the government's policy of declaring a holiday for parliament until February 13.

"Chronic unemployment has reduced thousands of working class homes in the country to a state of absolute destitution," the manifesto declares. "The cottages of the workers have been stripped of domestic comforts, and even the elementary requirements of a decent existence have been sold in order to provide the necessary food to stave off starvation. The burden imposed on local authorities by the great call for relief has been so great as to establish a state of local bankruptcy.

"Many local authorities are heavily in debt on account of having to meet a responsibility which should be borne by the nation without regard to the good or bad fortune of a particular area.

"Where unemployment is most severe co-operative societies and small traders have been brought to a state perilously near bankruptcy, and the long-continued drain on social resources has produced a state almost of social bankruptcy in certain areas."

START RAIL INQUIRY.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The interstate commerce commission has notified railroads that it will proceed immediately to investigate railroad expenditures during recent months. It is desirable to know whether expenditures of the carriers for maintenance of equipment have been reasonable, the commission's order declared, and to keep informed as to the manner and method in which the business of such carriers is conducted with special reference to car service.

President Johnston, of the International Association of Machinists, recently petitioned the commission to investigate strike expenditures of railroads. He charged that the carriers have been making extravagant expenditures to break the shop men's unions since last July, when the strike started. The unionist insisted that the commission act in a matter that involves wastes and additional costs to the public.

WOULD PROTECT WAGES.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 20—The state federation of labor is urging the state legislature to pass an act requiring sheriffs to notify the state labor commissioner in case of attachments, so wage claims of workers will be protected. The law gives wages priority rights, but attachments are often made before labor claims can be filed.

Trade unionists are also urging the passage of a law that only citizens of this state shall be appointed deputy sheriffs. The purpose of this act is to end the importation of thugs and gun men during strikes.

KIND OF ALIENS ENTERING

Washington, Jan. 20.—The kind of immigrants now coming to the United States under the 3 per cent law is indicated in a statement issued by the department of labor.

The annual quota for Armenia, Portugal, Lithuania, Spain, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, Africa, Greece, Italy, and Belgium are exhausted while the quotas for Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Rumania are almost exhausted.

More than half the countries of northwestern Europe, however, have supplied less than half their quota.

OIL PROFITS STAGGER.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The public press is giving little publicity to oil profits the senate oil investigating committee is uncovering.

In the Standard oil group these profits have broken all records. W. M. Irish, an officer of the Atlantic refining company, told the committee that since 1911 when the supreme court dissolved the oil trust, his company has paid cash dividends amounting to $11,226,000. Last November this company declared a 900 per cent stock dividend.

GIVE UP JURISDICTION.

Indianapolis, Jan. 20.—By a referendum vote of 28,285 to 8,128 the International Typographical union has agreed to surrender jurisdiction over newspaper writers.

ONE STEEL TRUST COMING.

New York, Jan. 20.—The merging of every steel company under one head would be a good thing, economically, declared Charles M. Schwab, in an address before bankers in this city.

Railroad Labor Board Can't Enforce Rulings

Washington, Jan. 20.—When the department of justice was creating a mob spirit to justify its injunction against the shop men, the people were told that a refusal to accept decisions by the railroad labor board is "a challenge to government."

Every echo and clacker for greed took up the cry that the shop men were "defying government," and that the board's decisions must be enforced if civilization is to continue.

Since this cry has served its purpose, the department of justice changes front, and now declares the board is simply a fact-finding body and an arbitration tribunal, dependent on the support of public opinion for the enforcement of its findings.

The latter position is taken by the department of justice in the suit of the Pennsylvania railroad against the board's order that the railroad company shall permit trade unionists to vote on employes' representation. The company was establishing its company "union" at the time, and debarred more than 85 per cent of its organized shop men from voting.

The railroad company claims the railroad labor board exceeded its authority. In discussing a law point in the case, the assistant solicitor general said the railroad labor board must depend on public opinion to enforce its decisions—a position that organized labor has continuously held.

USUAL FAULTY LOGIC BY ANTI-UNION HEAD

New York, Jan. 20.—John E. Edgerton, president of the national association of manufacturers, denies President Gompers' claim that there is "a conspiracy to crush organized labor."

Mr. Edgerton insists there is no concerted effort to establish the anti-union shop, which is backed by the justice of the principle involved and by public opinion, he says.

By a system of reasoning that only an anti-unionist can apply, Mr. Edgerton says that his organization favors the anti-union shop and at the same time does not oppose organizations of labor.

Denial of collectively bargaining, and refusal to treat with representatives the workers may select is a declaration of principles of the national association of manufacturers:

> "Employers must be free to employ their work people at wages mutually satisfactory, without interference or dictation on the part of individuals or organizations not directly parties to such contracts."

Under this system of individual bargaining it would be impossible for a trade union to function. Mr. Edgerton, however, glibly tells how his association for 20 years has upheld the right of labor to organize.

Mr. Edgerton assures the public that President Gompers is mistaken despite the fact that the association of manufacturers maintains an anti-union shop department for the purpose of attacking the unions wherever possible and encouraging anti-unionism in production.

PAID LAWYERS $619,000.

Washington, Jan. 20.—During a discussion in the house on an appropriation bill for the shipping board it developed that last year $619,000 was appropriated for the employment of attorneys for the emergency fleet corporation and the shipping board.

At that time officers of the shipping board assured members of congress that they had an awful time inducing some attorneys to abandon their "lucrative practice" and give their services to the shipping board for a paltry $20,000 or $25,000 a year. It was later shown that when congress limited the salaries of these attorneys to $11,000 a year none quit their positions, despite the former pleas of shipping board officials that they had to beg for the services of these lawyers.

OPPOSE FINGER PRINTING.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 20.—State Representative Corliss of Detroit wants everyone in Michigan finger printed and has introduced a bill in the state legislature.

According to Mr. Corliss' plan every Michigan resident would have to present himself to the proper authorities once a year and be finger printed and also give his name, citizenship, last address, and other information. The bill forbids any firm or organization employing anyone who is not registered.

It is expected that if the bill passes the next move would be to appropriate a few million dollars to make the law effective. A vast army of agents would be necessary to inspect every factory and home.

CHILD LABOR BAN URGED.

Washington, Jan. 20.—In declaring the child labor law unconstitutional the United States supreme court has pitted the lives of children against industrial gain, declared Miss Melinda Scott of the United Textile Workers of America at the women-in-industry conference, called by the women's bureau, department of labor.

Elimination of child labor to provide children a "growing-up" period was urged by the speaker, who also urged the elimination of night work for women.

PHONED TO ENGLAND.

New York, Jan. 20.—Officials of the American telegraph and telephone company sent messages and made speeches by wireless telephone to Southgate, England, where the Britishers cabled back every few minutes that the words, with few exceptions, were distinctly heard.

Scattered words and phrases have been wirelessed over the ocean before, but this is the first time that continuous conversation has been carried on over the space of 3,400 miles.

GARMENT WORKERS GAIN.

Pottstown, Pa., Jan. 20.—Organized garment workers in this city raised wages 10 per cent.

TOO MANY COAL MINES BLAMED FOR SCARCITY

Washington, Jan. 20.—Too many miners and too many mines is responsible for the scarcity of coal and for the instability of the coal industry, according to the coal commission's preliminary report.

The commission emphasizes the "over-development of the industry," and declares that there can be no satisfactory agreement on wages and no lasting peace between coal owners and miners unless steadier employment can be provided.

While coal strikes are blamed for "runaway markets" in 1920 and 1922, it is clear that the coal owners have no plausible excuse for their gougings in other periods. High prices also ruled from August, 1916, to March, 1918, and for that period, the commission reports, "some other explanation of the high prices and distress must be found."

A fuller report on profiteering is promised, but at this time it is stated that many coal owners and retailers at various times have made "grossly exorbitant profits."

Under the law creating the commission it is required to report its views on government operation and on regulation. In its preliminary report it indicates that it has been considering "can't-strike" legislation in connection with government regulation. It presents this ancient sophistry in favor of handcuff laws:

"It may be that both private property in an exhaustible resource and labor in a public service industry must submit to certain modifications of their private rights, receiving in return certain guarantees and privileges not accorded to purely private business or persons in private employ."

ABUSE CAN'T DISGUISE STEEL INDUSTRY WRONGS

New York, Jan. 20.—The steel industry's 12-hour day cannot be remedied by attempts to discredit those who have called attention to these conditions, said Bishop Francis J. McConnell, chairman of the interchurch world movement's commission that investigated the steel strike. This report is now attacked by Marshall Olds, a publicity man in this city, who has written a 500-page book on "The Analysis of the Interchurch World Movement Report on the Steel Strike."

Bishop McConnell says the commission stands by its investigators and its report. "All the loose and wild charges about the investigators as bolshevists and anarchists," said the churchman, "were perfectly known to the members of the commission and the interchurch officers and after thorough investigation, were contemptuously thrown aside.

"Once again the members of the commission urge their report of the hours, wages, and conditions in the steel industry upon the public for careful reading and re-reading. The 12-hour day is still the rule of the continuous production departments of the steel industry, and undemocratic and un-American conditions of control still characterize many of the largest steel plants."

Employers Not Interested In Developing Citizens

Boston, Jan. 20.—The immigration policy of the national association of manufacturers is not good Americanism or even good business, declares the immigration restriction league. The league says that the make-up of our citizenship is more important than an easily filled pay roll. Under the manufacturers' system, it is stated, "we would have a class of labor half-way between the freeman and the helot—easily handled, perhaps, until it blows up.

"It is not even good business to adopt this easy way of suddenly stimulating good times by bringing in cheap labor that will be put on the waiting list as soon as orders slack up. It gives flush times for a while, and then somebody has to carry the idle labor and half-idle plants.

"We know for a certainty that there are still hundreds of thousands of the partly employed, whom somebody has to carry whenever the bare margin of subsistence fails, who, under such conditions, cannot become contented and helpful citizens. Good business for the nation would take up this slack before we crowd the melting pot with a lot more of alien breed, whether literate or illiterate.

"But many of our employers will never turn their minds to the problem of making better use of the labor we already have."

PICKETING NOT UPHELD.

Sioux City, Iowa, Jan. 20.—Organized barbers of this city have lost their appeal to the state supreme court against an anti-picketing injunction.

A barber shop proprietor declared for the anti-union shop and reduced wages and lengthened hours. The union maintained one picket in front of the shop.

The supreme court said there is "a fair field of persuasion and publicity wherein the defendant may lawfully bring such power," but in this case, of course, the theory did not apply. The court took the usual position that workers may state their grievances, but where such statement injures business the union's act becomes conspiracy and intimidation.

TERRIFIC FREIGHT COSTS.

Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 20.—Present terrific freight costs is shown in the construction of the Maricopa county highway in this state. The people voted to bond themselves for $8,500,000, and of this amount the railroads took $803,791.94 for freight charges on cement alone.

In his message to the state legislature Governor Hunt declared that the cost of shipping cement into Arizona is excessive and that the manufacture of cement by the state should be investigated.

WANT MOTHERS IN HOMES.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Pay the fathers a sufficient wage that the mothers may stay out of industry, urged Dr. R. A. Speath, of Johns Hopkins university, at the women-in-industry conference called by the women's bureau of the department of labor.

Dr. Speath said the proposal that women be not employed for six weeks before and six weeks after childbirth, and be paid full wages during this time, was "utterly impractical."

STILL WANT COSSACKS.

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Agents of big business are gum-shoeing through the state to create cossack sentiment. Organized labor has registered two defeats against this system and announce they will gladly add another strike-out to their record.

U. S. EMPLOYERS MAY JOIN LABOR BODY TO DISCUSS WORLD'S ECONOMIC ISSUES

Washington, Jan. 20.—The chamber of commerce of the United States is examining the question of affiliating with the international labor office, set up by the Versailles treaty at Geneva, according to Julius H. Barnes, president of the chamber.

President Gompers says the statement by Mr. Barnes "makes it possible for me to bring the whole matter before the February meeting of the executive council of the A. F. of L."

"The position of the A. F. of L. has been clearly defined in two conventions," said the A. F. of L. executive, in answer to queries on labor's attitude. "It is one of indorsement of the international labor organization. The A. F. of L. authorized me to be one of a group of its representatives in Paris during the peace conference, and in that capacity I was selected by President Wilson to represent the United States as a member of the commission which drafted the labor charter under which the international labor office was organized. I presided over the meetings of that commission.

"Manifestly, American labor having thus participated in laying the foundation for the international labor office, it has watched the development of the work of that office with the deepest interest and with a desire to participate at the earliest opportunity.

"The announcement made by Mr. Barnes seems to offer the opportunity for American employers and American workers to participate in the activities of their respective groups in the international labor office, even though the United States does not officially become a full member of the international labor organization.

"Perhaps there may be some who will wonder why it is necessary for employers and workers to act together on this question. The international labor organization, it should be explained, is composed of four delegates from each member nation. Two of these represent the government, one represents the workers and one represents employers. There are thus three kinds of delegates. Where a nation is not a member—and the United States is in that category—organized workers and organized employers may participate unofficially in behalf of those whom they represent; and that, I understand, is what Mr. Barnes has in mind.

"I think such participation, or collaboration, will be decidedly helpful, and now that the effort has been begun, it may be possible for both workers and employers of the United States to sit in the next annual meeting of the international labor organization in Geneva. This will be particularly gratifying, because this is the one world organization that is actually functioning in a constructive, helpful manner."

PROFITS ARE EXCESSIVE; LIVING WAGE IS DENIED

New York, Jan. 20.—The declaration by Fall River cotton mill barons that they will close their plants rather than increase wages is made in the face of increasing prosperity, stock dividends and the Fordney-McCumber tariff.

It is generally agreed that the mill barons virtually dictated the cotton schedule of the present tariff law. This assurance of prosperity for the bosses is supplemented by recent stock dividends, which have been issued to escape the income tax and create a larger amount of stock over which inordinate profits may be spread.

In financial circles it is agreed that the textile industry is facing an era of prosperity. Now the organized textile workers are demanding wage increases. The executive council of the United Textile Workers reminds these wage earners of the profits in this industry, and calls on them to demand that textiles assure a living wage to every employe.

The manufacturers have unlocked their chamber of horrors and are parading the well-known poverty plea. They also hope the workers will forget the stock dividends and how the cotton schedule was passed.

The textile workers are not surprised at these time-worn tactics. But they know that their solidarity can work wonders, even in the mind of a mill baron.

ARMY BREAKS RECORD.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Uncle Sam's peace-time army is the largest in history, according to Congressman Madden, chairman of the house appropriations committee.

The regular standing army will have 125,000 men and 12,000 officers, but the total of those constantly under arms and in up-to-date training condition will be about 625,000. Mr. Madden's committee, however, has provided for nearly double that number by requiring that enough supplies shall be constantly on hand for 1,000,000 men.

"Never before has the country possessed so many military resources in trained men and material," said Mr. Madden. "Our regular army now has double the number of highly trained commissioned officers it had before the world war, and an enlisted strength 25 per cent larger than before the war. The national guard is nearly 100 per cent larger and a far greater military asset to the nation than ever before."

RED TAPE IN INDUSTRY.

New York, Jan. 20.—Red tape and overorganization is a flaw in industry, declared Dr. Milton C. Whitaker, a chemist of note, in a speech in this city.

"We saw many cases during the war," he said, "where there was so much organization that there was no one left to do the work. We still frequently find organizations all dressed up and nowhere to go."

Dr. Whitaker indicated that industrial scientists thave their troubles with business men. He said the fundamental condition for research work in a commercial organization was to make the high officials and those financially interested understand what the research was all about and what it might accomplish.

HUGE OIL PROFITS.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Net earnings of approximately $20,000,000 on a capitalization of $27,000,000 is the record of the Prairie pipe line company last year, according to Clark H. Kountz, vice president of the company, testifying before the senate oil investigating committee.

These earnings, added to a surplus of $39,000,000 on hand at the end of 1921, enabled the company to declare a stock dividend of 200 per cent.

COAL GOUGER ROUNDED UP

New York, Jan. 20.—The state fuel administration has ordered a coal company in this city to remove slag and slate from the premises of a customer and refund him the money he paid for this supposed coal. The company ignored the administration's first request, but later received a sharp telegram stating that if they did not obey orders their coal supply would be stopped.

WOULD END KANSAS COURT

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 20.—In his first message to the state legislature Governor Davis declared the Allen "can't-strike" law a failure and recommended a board of arbitration as a substitute.

"The state has had more disturbance of industry and more loss of wages from strikes since the enactment of this law than during the entire decade before its enactment," the governor declared.

STREET CAR MEN GAIN.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 20.—A 10 per cent wage increase and other gains are included in the new agreement between organized street railway men and the local traction company.

CITIZENS' ALLIANCE IN DYNAMITE PLOT

Minneapolis, Jan. 20.—County Attorney Olson publicly charges O. P. Briggs, president of the citizens' alliance, and Walter Gleeson of the Gleeson detective agency, with using a dope fiend as a "stool pigeon" to fasten a dynamite charge on Dan Mahady, a former member of organized labor.

Mahady was expelled from the union because of financial irregularities. Later he was arrested for drunkenness, and while in jail became acquainted with Fred Myers, in jail on "dope" charges. When released Myers entertained Mahady freely and finally induced him to agree to blow up a safe at La Crosse, Wis. They stole dynamite that was used by builders for excavating. Then Gleeson, the detective, caused the arrest of the two men.

"After the release of Mahady and Myers from the workhouse," says the county attorney, "Myers kept Mahady in tow and entertained him more or less lavishly with money supplied by Gleeson. The money was obtained by Gleeson from one Briggs, the manager of the citizens' alliance, who was at all times cognizant of the machinations of Gleeson and Myers.

"To my mind it was a dangerous and dastardly act on the part of Briggs and Gleeson to incite these two irresponsible men to gain possession of explosives. What easy tools in the hands of shrewd and unscrupulous men.

"From just such beginnings as this grew the battles at Herrin, at West Virginia, and other places.

"It is surprising that intelligent business men will allow themselves to be preyed upon by private detective agencies who, because of the large fee paid them, render false reports with the view of terrorizing the employer and of increasing his animosity against organized labor."

STRIKERS LYNCHED BY ARKANSAS MOB

Washington, Jan. 20.—Striking employes of the Missouri & North Arkansas railroad are victims of mobs that would smash their strike. One striker has been lynched because, the public press states, he "resisted a citizens' committee." During the two years' strike many workers have been driven out of the state.

The railroad is responsible for the strike, which includes shop men, transportation employes and other workers. When the railroad labor board raised wages under decision No. 2 this railroad, together with other railroads, protested. The board decided against them. The railroad not only refused to pay the new rate, but reduced wages below the old standard and declined to appear before the board on the ground that it is in the hands of a federal receiver and the board has no jurisdiction. Then the employes suspended work. Later the board legalized the railroad's wage cut, and since then efforts have been made to smash the strike.

R. R. STRIKE IS COSTLY.

New York, Jan. 20.—In a letter to stockholders President Loree of the Delaware & Hudson railroad states that the coal and shop men's strike has cost that railroad $500,000, but dividends will be paid as usual out of "a large accumulated surplus created in former years." Mr. Loree is one of the bitterest opponents of organized labor among railroad managers. His policy of meeting dividends out of surplus will not cause his stockholders to object to his labor policy, though the price must be paid some time.

VIRTUOUS COAL OWNERS.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Anti-union coal owners of West Virginia assure President Harding's coal commission that the wicked miners' union is responsible for conditions in that state.

This statement is made despite the frank declaration by coal owners' representatives before senate committees that no union of miners will be tolerated in that state.

NEW COPPER MERGER.

New York, Jan. 20.—The Anaconda copper company, the largest copper producer in the world, has acquired the Chile copper company which ranks first among the world's copper mines. Bonds to the value of $150,000,000 are required to handle the transaction.

JAIL STRIKING SEAMEN.

Sydney, New South Wales Australia, Jan. 20.—Because 14 seamen refused to ship with strikebreakers they were charged with refusing to obey the orders of the captain and sent to jail for seven days.

FAKES COST MILLIONS.

Atlantic City, N. J., Jan. 20.—Promoters of fake stocks mulcted the people of $500,000,000 last year, according to officers of the associated advertising clubs of the world.

SET MINIMUM WAGE.

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Jan. 20.—The minimum wage board has set $14 a week and a work week of 48 hours for working women in this province.